

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

HOU et al.

Application No. Unassigned

Filed: Herewith

For: POSITIVELY CHARGED MEMBRANE

Art Unit: Unassigned

Examiner: Unassigned

Pre Opmt
5/A
DR
08-16-02

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to the examination of the above-identified patent application, please enter the following amendments and consider the following remarks. Pages showing the requested changes are attached. The amendments indicated herein apply to the claims present at the conclusion of the international phase of the PCT application.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Replace paragraph 1 with:

This application is a 35 U.S.C. § 371 of PCT/US00/04786, filed on February 25, 2000, which claims priority from U.S. Provisional Patent Application Nos. 60/121,669 and 60/121,670, both filed on February 25, 1999, the disclosures of which are incorporated herein by reference in their entireties.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace the indicated claims with:

3. (Amended) The positively charged microporous membrane of claim 1, wherein the crosslinked coating comprises a crosslinked polyamine.

5. (Amended) The positively charged microporous membrane of claim 1, wherein the crosslinked coating includes a diallylamine copolymer.